

ENFIELD ETHICS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 23, 2015

A regular meeting of the Enfield Ethics Commission was held at Town Hall in the Enfield Room, located at 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT on March 23, 2015.

PRESENT: Commissioners Roy Nash, David LaPierre and Philip Kober.

Chairman Roy Nash called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of prior meeting minutes: A motion (Nash/Kober) to approve the minutes from the February 23, 2015 meeting carried.

Review of Rules of Procedure and Rules and Regulations: The commission began its review of the Rules of Procedure and Rules and Regulations documents which require updates in language and content. It was noted that both documents are date stamped from 1986. The goal is to resolve any conflicts between the two, make some amendments and consolidate the two into one document.

It was agreed that the voting requirements should be changed from a fixed number to a two-thirds vote in the affirmative to have a finding of a violation.

Under Rules and Regulations, it was noted that Article 1, Sec. 3 should be updated to the current address of the commission.

In Article II, the timetable for notifying the person against whom the complaint was filed conflicts with the language of the Ordinance.

In Article III, the terms of office are out of date.

Article IV requires the commission to meet every month, but its workload (or lack thereof) may not necessitate meeting.

Concerning the Rules of Procedure, Commissioner Nash said he thought he recalled Town Attorney Kevin Deneen saying that item #2 could be eliminated.

In item #5, it was agreed that here and in item #10, the opening and closing statements time allotment should be changed from a firm 15 minutes to "15 minutes or longer at the discretion of the chair." Furthermore, the pertinent language in item #10 should be moved to item #9 where it is more relevant.

Concerning item #7, the collection of evidence, there was discussion as to how and what evidence can be collected. It was suggested that when the commission sends an acknowledgement letter to the complainant, it could be a form letter of acknowledgement.

Once again in item #10, the votes needed to set a hearing date and to determine a finding should be changed from a fixed number to two-thirds of a quorum.

Commissioner Nash said he would like to see item #11 clarified as to how “hearings involving related questions of law or fact” can be consolidated.

There were questions about how the “compromise or voluntary resolution” procedure as mentioned in item #12 would work.

It was agreed that Town Attorney Kevin Deneen would be invited to a future meeting to offer advice on various matters.

A motion (LaPierre/Kober) to adjourn carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.